IN THE

Supreme Court of the United States

October Term, 1977

No. 77-661

GEORGE MOSS,

Petitioner,

—v.—

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Respondent.

PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT

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November 7, 1977

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The petitioner George Moss respectfully prays that a writ of certiorari issue to review the judgment of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit affirming the judgment of conviction entered against the petitioner by the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York.

Opinion Below

The opinion of the Court of Appeals, not yet reported, appears in the Appendix hereto at pp. 1a-18a. No opinion was rendered by the District Court for the Eastern District of New York.

Jurisdiction

The date of the judgment of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit was September 6, 1977, which was also the date of entry. The United States filed a timely petition for rehearing which was denied on October 13, 1977. App. p. 19a. This Court's jurisdiction is invoked under Title 28, United States Code, Section 1254(1).

Question Presented

Were there violations of the defendant's fifth amendment privilege against self-incrimination and the protection conferred by 11 U.S.C., Section 25(a)(10) when the Government, in a prosecution for bankruptcy fraud, cross-examined the defendant systematically and at length about the veracity of his previous immunized bankruptcy testimony, thereby eliciting some admissions of perjury?

Constitutional and Statutory Provisions Involved in the Case

1. United States Constitution, Amendment V: No person . . . shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself.
2. 11 U.S.C. Section 25(a)(10) (in pertinent part): The bankrupt shall . . . submit to an examination concerning the conducting of his business, the cause of his bankruptcy, his dealings with his creditors and other persons, the amount, kind and whereabouts of his property, and, in addition, all matters which may affect the administration and settlement of his estate or the granting of his discharge; but no testimony, or any evidence which is directly or indirectly derived from such testimony given by him shall be offered in evidence against him in any criminal proceeding except

such testimony as may be given by him in the hearing upon objections to his discharge.

Statement of the Case

The petitioner George Moss was tried in the Eastern District of New York before the Hon. Thomas C. Platt and a jury and was convicted as follows: on two counts of fraudulently concealing items of property in contemplation of bankruptcy under 18 U.S.C. § 152; on seven counts of fraudulently concealing items of property from the Trustee in bankruptcy and the creditors under the same statutory section; on two counts of fraudulently withholding documents from the Trustee, under the same statutory section; and on one count of conspiracy to commit offenses under the same section. The counts relating to concealment in contemplation and to concealment of documents referred to the same property that was the subject of the offenses of concealment after bankruptcy. In all some seven items of property were involved and their total value appears to have been about seven thousand dollars.

The charges arose out of the bankruptcy of a company, Stafford Manufacturing, of which Moss was the President. In the course of the bankruptcy proceedings Moss had testified under circumstances which the Government conceded came under the immunity conferred by 11 U.S.C. § 25(a)(10). *Supra* pp. 2-3. At the trial on the criminal charges Moss took the stand. The prosecutor then proceeded to cross-examine Moss vigorously with respect to inconsistencies between the testimony he had given on direct examination and the testimony he had earlier given in the bankruptcy proceedings. The cross-examination was extremely successful since it elicited from Moss admissions that on several occasions he had lied to the Bankruptcy Court with respect to the disposition of items of property at issue in the trial. In other instances the prosecutor pressed Moss hard about

alleged inconsistencies between his testimony at the trial and his previous bankruptcy testimony without obtaining any admissions from Moss that the previous testimony was false. App. pp. 11a, 17a.

The cross-examination did not draw any objection from defense counsel who, it appears, was unaware of the existence of the protective section of the Bankruptcy Act. App. p. 11a. By a later stage in the trial defense counsel had become aware of this provision and moved for a mistrial which was denied. App. p. 11a.

After the jury verdict of guilty, the petitioner filed a motion under Rule 33, Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, requesting a new trial on the ground that the Government had wrongly breached the immunity conferred on him by statute with respect to his bankruptcy testimony. The court denied the motion.

An appeal was taken to the Second Circuit Court of Appeals on numerous grounds, including the Government's use of the bankruptcy testimony on cross-examination. The Court of Appeals reversed the conviction on one count for insufficiency of evidence. The Court of Appeals also found (as the Government had conceded) that four of the counts were multiplicitous, but did not reverse the convictions on these counts for the reasons that no objection on this ground had been made at the trial and there was no duplicity of punishment with respect to the prison sentences, since the sentences on all counts were concurrent and below the maximum for a single count. The case was remanded for resentencing with respect to the fines since these had been imposed separately and cumulatively and thus could not survive the finding of multiplicity. App. pp. 6a-7a, 18a.

With respect to the major appellate ground of improper use of the defendant's bankruptcy testimony, the Court of Appeals held that the Government's introduction

of this testimony was not justified by defense counsel's failure to object, since the statute conferred a vested right on the defendant that only he could waive. App. pp. 13a-14a. Neither, in the view of the Court of Appeals, was the use of the testimony justified by any exception going to what may be properly used on cross-examination. App. pp. 15a-16a. In principle the Court of Appeals thus regarded the Government's action as an impropriety. The court, however, affirmed the conviction on the ground that the Government's use of the bankruptcy testimony was validated in the outcome by the defendant's admissions of perjury. App. pp. 15a-16a. The Court of Appeals did find that parts of the cross-examination, relying on the bankruptcy testimony, failed to elicit admissions of perjury but regarded this violation as harmless error. App. p. 17a.

Reasons for Granting the Writ

This case presents an important question of first impression under the Bankruptcy Act; at the same time it poses subtle but fundamental interrogatories about our understanding of the Fifth Amendment privilege against self-incrimination. The defendant had earlier given compelled testimony. To procure this testimony under compulsory process it was constitutionally necessary that the immunity conferred by the Bankruptcy Act be present, for, otherwise, the very taking of the testimony would have been a violation of the Fifth Amendment. But the Court of Appeals, while conceding the threshold impropriety of the Government's reneging on the statutory protection, nevertheless held that the use the Government made of the immunized testimony was ultimately validated by the forceful extraction under cross-examination of admissions by the defendant of earlier perjury in the bankruptcy testimony. This "proof of the pudding" approach seriously undermines both the legislative purpose

apparent in the Bankruptcy Act and the essential core of the Fifth Amendment.

It is of course to be conceded at once that there is no license to lie when testimony is being given under the immunity that comes with compulsion. But the proper remedy is a prosecution for perjury where a jury may make a determination under the rules of evidence and with proper instruction whether perjury was indeed committed. The notion that some other demonstration, falling short of a conviction, that the earlier statement was perjurious can justify its use in a prosecution for an underlying offense and not for perjury itself is dangerous for a number of reasons.

First, the language of the statute admits of no exceptions and this is sensibly grounded. The aim of the statute is to procure that full and free testimony that can only be elicited by total protection in a subsequent prosecution for any underlying offense. (In the bankruptcy situation a prosecution for bankruptcy fraud is the most obvious underlying offense that springs to mind). The knowledge that, in a prosecution for the underlying offense, a prosecutor can put the bankruptcy testimony under microscopic scrutiny, and justify his use of it if the vigor of his cross-examination can elicit an admission from the defendant that he lied, grievously undermines the purpose of the statute.

Second, the decision of the Court of Appeals, while paying lip service to the principles enunciated by this Court in *Kastigar* v. *United States*, 406 U.S. 441 (1972), in fact badly dents the chief principle of that case. As Mr. Justice Powell said in *Kastigar*, the Constitution requires that the immunity from the use of compelled testimony "prohibits the prosecutorial authorities from using the compelled testimony in *any* respect". (Italics in original). 406 U.S. at 453. But the Court of Appeals in effect held that "any respect" does not cover a case

where the Government has cross-examined the witness into admitting that he committed perjury. However narrowly the Court of Appeals tried to confine its ruling to the facts of this particular case, the danger is not dissolved. For it is common knowledge that suspects and defendants often confess to things they did not do. This is sometimes because of the complicated concepts involved in the legal understanding of the crime at issue. A defendant's elicited admission under the fire of cross-examination that he committed perjury is quite different from a jury finding at the end of a perjury trial that he did so. The extraction under pressure of such an admission, by making use of the very protected testimony itself, is surely one of the dangers that *Kastigar* pointed to.

Third, the decision of the Court of Appeals condones what the court itself appeared to recognize as a threshold impropriety by the Government. For, while the Court of Appeals warned prosecutors not "to rely on the hope that admissions of perjury will always be forthcoming to save the day", (App. p. 17a), the holding will surely encourage prosecutors to make such dangerously unconstitutional forays in the hope of saving a poor case. It is improper to allow Government to arrogate to itself the omniscience of purporting to justify its breach of the statutory wall of immunity by contending that it always "knew" it could demonstrate that the defendant had committed perjury. This is hardly different from justifying a warrantless search made without probable cause by an assertion after the event that the Government always "knew" it would find contraband.

Fourth, where there is no adjudication of a perjury in a proceeding designed to that end, the Government's use of former protected testimony will always be to a large extent a fishing expedition, as it was in this case. For while the Government did here extract some admis-

sions of perjury from the defendant, there were numerous instances where Moss was cross-examined about his prior testimony without in any way admitting perjury. Conceding this, the Court of Appeals fell back on the concept of harmless error to salvage its holding. But this error is a very inappropriate candidate for classification as harmless, involving as it does the use of testimony to show inconsistencies when that testimony was protected by constitutionally mandated immunity and was not even shown to be perjurious.

Further, the holding of the Second Circuit Court of Appeals is in conflict with a statement by this Court in *Shotwell Mfg. Co.* v. *United States*, 371 U.S. 341, 350 n.10 (1963), that where testimony was compelled by a grant of immunity "the truth or falsity of such a disclosure would then be irrelevant to the question of its admissibility". This statement in *Shotwell* pungently expresses the core principle that the Court of Appeals decision invaded, the notion that immunity, as constitutionally required, confers absolute protection from any use of the immunized statement when the prosecution relates to any offense that was the subject of questions posed during the immunized interrogation.

Curiously, the Second Circuit Court of Appeals had earlier recognized the broad thrust of the *Shotwell* statement, for in *United States* v. *Tramunti*, 500 F.2d 1334 (2d Cir.), *cert. denied*, 419 U.S. 1079 (1974), that court said:

> Appellant's reliance on *Shotwell Mfg. Co.* v. *United States*, 371 U.S. 341 (1963) is misplaced. Appellant urges that the case is authority for the proposition that grand jury evidence, even if false or evasive, is entitled to fifth amendment protection. *However, the language relied upon refers to use of compelled testimony in the prosecution of the underlying crime which had been the subject of the investigation, and not, as here, to its use in an unrelated prosecution for perjury.* (Italics added). 500 F.2d at 1344, n.5.

In the present case the prosecution was of course for an underlying crime. The Court of Appeals thus strayed in its holding from the purity of the principles expressed in *Kastigar* and *Shotwell*, the essence of which was recently restated by the Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit in *United States* v. *Frumento* (*In re Pisciotta*), 552 F.2d 534, 543 (3d Cir.) (1977):

> We reiterate our adherence to this principle; except as the basis for a prosecution for perjury a witness's immunized testimony may not be used against him.

CONCLUSION

For these reasons a writ of certiorari should issue to review the judgment of the Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

Respectfully submitted,

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November 7, 1977

APPENDIX

APPENDIX A

Opinion of the United States Court of Appeals

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT

No. 1319—September Term, 1976.
(Argued June 20, 1977 Decided September 6, 1977.)
Docket No. 77-1134

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Appellee,

—against—

GEORGE MOSS and AMERICAN IDENTIFICATION PRODUCTS,
Defendants-Appellants.

Before:

MULLIGAN, GURFEIN and VAN GRAAFEILAND,
Circuit Judges.

Appeal from judgments of conviction entered in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York (Hon. Thomas C. Platt), on twelve counts of bankruptcy fraud under 18 U.S.C. § 152, and on one count of conspiracy to violate that section.

Conviction on Count Three reversed; judgments of conviction on other counts affirmed, and sentences of fines remanded.

GRAHAM HUGHES, New York, N.Y., *for Defendants-Appellants.*

EDWARD R. KORMAN, Chief Assistant United States Attorney, Eastern District of New York (David G. Trager, United States Attorney, Eastern District of New York, of counsel), *for Appellee.*

Appendix A—Opinion of the United States Court of Appeals

GURFEIN, *Circuit Judge:*

This is an appeal from judgments of conviction entered upon a jury verdict in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York (Platt, *J.*). Appellant George Moss was convicted on eleven substantive counts of bankruptcy fraud under 18 U.S.C. § 152, and on one count of conspiracy to violate that section. Moss was sentenced on each count to two years imprisonment, with eighteen months suspended (all twelve counts to run concurrently), and to a fine of $1,000 on each count, amounting to a total fine of $12,000. Appellant American Identification Products was convicted on one count of fraudulently receiving property from a bankrupt under 18 U.S.C. § 152 and was sentenced to a fine of $5,000. The bankruptcy petition on behalf of Stafford Manufacturing Co. was filed and Stafford was declared a debtor-in-possession on August 10, 1970. Stafford was adjudicated a bankrupt and a Trustee was appointed on August 10, 1972.

In Counts One and Three of the Indictment, Moss was charged with fraudulently concealing various items of property of Stafford, of which he was president, in contemplation of bankruptcy. Counts Two and Four charged that he fraudulently concealed these same items of property from the Trustee in bankruptcy and the creditors after Stafford was adjudicated a bankrupt. Counts Five and Six also charged concealment of the same item of property before bankruptcy and from the Trustee, respectively. Count Five was subsequently dismissed on the Government's motion. Counts Seven, Eight, Nine and Ten alleged that Moss also fraudulently concealed additional items of property from the Trustee and creditors. In Counts Eleven and Twelve, Moss was charged with fraudulently withholding from the Trustee documents relating

Appendix A—Opinion of the United States Court of Appeals

to the property which was the subject of Counts One, Two, Three and Four. Moss was convicted on all these counts.[1]

In Count Fourteen, Moss was charged with conspiring with co-defendant Arnold Rubin and others unknown, to commit offenses in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 152. Although Rubin was acquitted on this count, Moss was convicted. Defendant American Identification Products was convicted on Count Thirteen, charging it was fraudulently receiving property from a bankrupt.

Appellant George Moss urges three grounds for reversal. First, that there was insufficient evidence to support the jury verdicts on Counts One, Three, Six, Seven, Eight, Ten, Eleven, Twelve and Fourteen. Second, that the convictions on the substantive counts were multiplicitous. Third, that the use in cross-examination at trial of Moss' prior immunized testimony before the bankruptcy court, was improper and requires reversal.

I

We deal first with Moss' contention that the convictions are multiplicitous.[2] Moss' position on this issue has three facets. First, he urges that Counts One and Three, which charge concealment of certain property in contemplation of bankruptcy, merge respectively into Counts Two and

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[1] Count Five, as we have noted, was dismissed on the Government's motion.

[2] Although defendant Moss failed to complain at trial that the indictment was multiplicitous, the Government concedes that he still may raise the point on appeal, but only to the extent that multiplicitous convictions have resulted in the imposition of a sentence in excess of that which could be imposed for a single offense. *Cf. United States* v. *Private Brands*, 250 F.2d 554, 557 (2d Cir. 1957), *cert. denied*, 355 U.S. 957 (1958).

Four, which charge the actual concealment of the *same* property from the Trustee and the creditors. The Government concedes that the offense of concealment in contemplation of bankruptcy merges with the offense of concealing assets after the bankruptcy petition has been filed, much as an attempt to commit a substantive crime merges upon conviction of the substantive offense. The Government specifically concedes that the conviction on Count One merges with the conviction on Count Two, and that the conviction on Count Three merges with the conviction on Count Four, so far as imposition of sentence is concerned.

Appellant also contends that Counts Eleven and Twelve, which charge Moss with concealing the registration papers relating to two motor vehicles, also merge with Counts Two and Four, which allege the fraudulent concealment of those vehicles themselves. The Government specifically concedes this point as well, noting that concealment of the documents was simply part of the means by which the offense of fraudulent concealment was accomplished. *Cf. United States* v. *White*, 417 F.2d 89, 93 (2d Cir. 1969).

The Government does not similarly accept Moss' broader merger argument, however, that as a matter of statutory construction, the various charges alleged in the indictment constitute only a single bankruptcy fraud under 18 U.S.C. § 152, and hence that conviction was proper only on one count. Relying on *Edwards* v. *United States*, 265 F.2d 302 (9th Cir. 1959), Moss maintains that concealment of a number of different pieces of property constitutes only one offense. We have no difficulty with the *Edwards* decision nor, in the context of that case, with the legal principle which Moss draws from it. We disagree, however, with Moss' contention that *Edwards* is applicable to this case.

In *Edwards*, the defendant was charged in eight separate counts with the fraudulent concealment of eight items of property *before* the filing of the bankruptcy petition. The Ninth Circuit therefore reasoned that:

> "The gist of the offense charged in each of the eight counts . . . is the failure . . . to reveal or disclose on or after [the filing of the petition], property belonging to the bankrupt. . . . Surely, if an accused should conceal a dining room set, a china set, or one thousand silver dollars belonging to the estate of the bankrupt, his offense of failure to reveal or disclose would not be multiplied by the number of separate items concealed. The fact that several different items of property belonging to the estate of a bankrupt were concealed does not multiply the number of offenses, even though the concealment of any one of the items standing alone would constitute the offense denounced by the statute. The offense . . . does not arise until there is a duty to reveal or disclose. . . ."

265 F.2d at 306.

It is true that when the concealment of several items of property *precedes* the filing of the bankruptcy petition, the duty to disclose the transfers to the receiver or trustee is a single duty to reveal all. When the concealment of assets belonging to the bankrupt occurs after a receiver or trustee has been appointed, however, each separate act of concealment is a separate violation of the statute. *United States* v. *Kaldenberg*, 429 F.2d 161 (9th Cir. 1970). In each such instance there is a separate act, taken at a discrete time, accompanied by the requisite intent. Any other rule would permit a defendant who has committed a first concealment to steal more on the theory that he would never become a sheep but always remain a lamb.

It is not in the interest of deterrence to permit a multiplication of criminal acts to be treated as a bonus for the criminal actor free from additional penalty.

Counts Eight, Nine and Ten involved the conversion of checks received on three separate occasions after the bankruptcy proceeding had begun. These counts are clearly not multiplicitous. Counts Two and Four involved the execution of fraudulent affidavits of sale on December 6, 1972 (as well as the initial physical concealment of a GMC truck, and a Chevelle station wagon). Count Six charged the concealment from the Trustee of a Clark fork-lift type truck. Count Seven involved the illegal transfer of three Benchmaster presses at the time of an auction sale of Stafford's inventory in September, 1972 (as well as certain acts of concealment prior to the filing of the petition).

The foregoing analysis reveals that, although Counts One, Three, Eleven and Twelve were duplicative, separate convictions were permissible on Counts Two, Four, Six, Seven, Eight, Nine and Ten.

He was not prejudiced by the imposition of *concurrent* sentences of two years' imprisonment (eighteen months suspended), since conviction on a single count could support a sentence of five years' imprisonment. *United States* v. *Wilson*, 535 F.2d 522, 523 (9th Cir. 1976) (J. Joseph Smith, *Circuit Judge*); *United States* v. *Smith*, 532 F.2d 158, 160 (10th Cir. 1976); *Benton* v. *Maryland*, 395 U.S. 784, 791 (1969); *United States* v. *Hines*, 256 F.2d 561, 562-63 (2d Cir. 1958). Appellant argues that he may have been prejudiced in sentencing because he stood convicted of twelve substantive counts rather than six. We disagree. The district judge, well aware of the related nature of the substantive counts, directed that the twelve

terms of imprisonment be served concurrently, indicating that he was considering the defendant in relation to the entire scene. Moreover, the sentence imposed was far more lenient than the maximum sentence that he would have imposed on a single count.

II

Appellant Moss attacks the sufficiency of the evidence on Counts One, Three, Six, Seven, Eight, Ten, Eleven, Twelve, and Fourteen, the conspiracy count. Our disposition of the multiplicity issue, and the concurrent sentence doctrine, makes it unnecessary to consider this claim with regard to Counts One, Three, Eleven and Twelve. A review of the remaining counts reveals that the evidence was sufficient.

Count Six charged the concealment from the Trustee of a Clark fork-lift type truck. Witness Seifer, a former employee of Stafford, testified that the fork-lift had been hidden by Moss and locked in a separate room and that the room had affixed to it a sign which read "Galgan Realty," giving the appearance that it was a place of business distinct from Stafford. The fork-life was found in the possession of American Identification Products, controlled by Moss.

As for Count Seven, involving concealment of three Benchmaster presses, defendant Moss conceded at trial that he had removed some machinery out of the Stafford plant, but denied that these were items of property of the bankrupt. However, there was testimony by Seifer that he removed several presses from Stafford's plant, at Moss' direction, in August, 1972. Three presses previously owned by Stafford were discovered subsequently on the premises of American Identification Products. We agree with the

Government that the jury could infer from this evidence that Moss concealed from the Trustee presses owned by Stafford.

In Counts Eight and Ten, it was alleged that on separate occasions subsequent to the adjudication of bankruptcy, Moss received checks payable to Stafford, cashed them, and failed to turn over to the Trustee either the checks or the proceeds. It is Moss' position that he lacked any fraudulent intent, however, because he entertained a bona fide belief that these checks were in fact his personal property and not that of the bankrupt. Moss urges that the checks were payments for work which he personally performed (pursuant to a contract between Stafford and the Navy) after the adjudication of bankruptcy. It was within the jury's province, however, to reject this defense. Moss sought to have these checks made payable to him personally; when he was unable to do so, he nevertheless cashed them himself. He did not seek legal advice on the propriety of his conduct, nor did he inform the Trustee of his actions. The jury had the right to conclude that Moss acted with fraudulent intent and to disbelieve his testimony to the contrary.

Count Fourteen alleged that Moss conspired with a co-defendant, Arnold Rubin, and others unknown, to violate 18 U.S.C. § 152. Since Rubin was acquitted the question is whether there was, nonetheless, evidence of a conspiracy between Moss and another person not named in the indictment. We agree with the Government that there was evidence from which the jury could have inferred that Moss conspired with his brother, Nat Moss, who also was a principal of Stafford. We, therefore, sustain the conviction of conspiracy. *See United States* v. *Green*, 421 F.2d 1237 (2d Cir. 1970). *And see Rogers* v. *United States*, 340 U.S. 367, 375 (1951).

The remaining issue on this appeal concerns the use on cross-examination of appellant Moss at trial of testimony given by him before the bankruptcy court. Moss claims that the use of his prior testimony violated the immunity grant conferred by 11 U.S.C. § 25(a)(10), which provides that

> "no testimony, or any evidence which is directly or indirectly derived from such testimony, given by [the bankrupt before the referee] shall be offered in evidence against him in any criminal proceeding, except such testimony as may be given by him in the hearing upon objections to his discharge."

The Government contends that its use of Moss' testimony at the criminal trial for impeachment was permissible under § 25(a)(10) and under the self-incrimination clause of the Fifth Amendment.

The Government argues, moreover, that Moss waived his right to object to use of his testimony because his counsel failed to make a timely objection at trial.

A.

At trial, Moss indicated on direct examination by his own counsel that he had "appeared" before the Bankruptcy Court. The prosecutor immediately requested a sidebar conference in which the following exchange took place:

> "[The prosecutor]: Your Honor, if [counsel] *asks the next question*, which I anticipate will have to do with any proceeding before the Bankruptcy Court, I wish the Court to recognize that the Government will take the position that any privilege under the Fifth Amendment will be completely and inexorably waived. (Emphasis added.)

"The Court: He does that anyway now when he takes the stand.

"[Defense counsel]: He does that when he takes the stand.

"[The prosecutor]: All aspects of the Fifth Amendment are waived, correct?

"[Defense counsel]: That is my understanding, if he takes the stand, he waives the Fifth.

"[The prosecutor]: I want to be absolutely clear because this is a bankruptcy case and there are some possible ramifications.

"[Defense counsel]: That is information you have given and I appreciate the efforts you have made to make sure that something untoward did not happen, and I say that with all seriousness. I was not going to go into detail. I just wanted to get the date of his first knowledge and that is it.

"[The prosecutor]: That may be your attempt, [counsel], but I merely advised the Court—

"The Court: Once he takes the stand anyway he has waived it.

"[The prosecutor]: That includes the Fifth Amendment that accrues under Title Eleven.

"The Court: Yes, surely."

The "next question" was never asked. Defense counsel did not follow up by asking any questions of Moss about his testimony in the bankruptcy hearing. We have no problem, therefore, of counsel's "opening the door", *cf. Walder* v. *United States*, 347 U.S. 62, 65-66 (1954), where the defendant "of his own accord" opened the door for impeachment. *But cf. Agnello* v. *United States*, 269 U.S. 20, 35 (1925).

Though defense counsel did not follow up by questioning appellant about his testimony before the Bankruptcy Judge, the prosecution nevertheless proceeded to cross-examine appellant on answers he had given before Bankruptcy Judge Price, to which defense counsel interposed *no objection.* The cross-examination resulted in admissions by appellant that he had perjured himself in the bankruptcy proceeding. Certain other inconsistencies with his present testimony were also developed. In general, the cross-examination was directed to countering Moss' testimony that he had never concealed property with the requisite criminal intent. After the cross-examination had been completed, defense counsel, several days later, moved for a mistrial on the ground that the Government had made improper use of the defendant's testimony in the course of the bankruptcy proceeding. The court held that the failure to object constituted a waiver. We thus face the preliminary question whether testimony given under the use immunity provision of the Bankruptcy Act may be used as impeachment material if the defendant takes the stand and no objection to such use is raised. We believe this to be a question of first impression under the present Bankruptcy Act.

The testimony given by the bankrupt was *compelled* by Section 25(a) of the Bankruptcy Act, as the Government concedes. *See United States* v. *Dornau*, 491 F.2d 473 (2d Cir. 1974). The compulsion was constitutionally justified only because the use immunity granted, including a prohibition against derivative use, was coextensive with the constitutional privilege against self-incrimination. *Kastigar* v. *United States*, 406 U.S. 441 (1972). The earlier Bankruptcy Act of 1898 did not prohibit derivative use of the bankrupt's testimony and hence was not coextensive with the privilege. *See Arndstein* v. *McCarthy*, 254 U.S. 71, 73 (1920); *and see Counselman* v. *Hitchcock*, 142 U.S. 547,

564-65 (1892). Under that statute the prohibition against use of the testimony came into play only if the bankrupt *voluntarily* surrendered his privilege. He could not be prevented from standing upon it because the use immunity then being tendered fell short of being coextensive with the privilege.

In such circumstances, the prohibition against use of the testimony was not a constitutional prohibition but rather a bargain made in exchange for testimony that could not have been compelled. Considering such a statute, the Supreme Court held that "it prescribes a rule of competency of evidence which may or may not be insisted upon. It does not declare a policy the protection of which cannot be waived. And the time to avail of it is when the testimony is offered." *Burrell* v. *Montana*, 194 U.S. 572, 755 (1903); *accord*, *Bain* v. *United States*, 262 F. 664, 669 (2d Cir. 1920).

On the other hand, since under the present Bankruptcy Act section, 11 U.S.C. § 25(a), the bankrupt is *compelled* to testify, the immunity granted must be coextensive with the privilege. The scope of the required immunity was carefully set forth by Mr. Justice Powell in *Kastigar*, *supra*. In upholding as constitutionally sufficient the use and derivative use immunity of 18 U.S.C. § 6002, he noted:

> "Immunity from the use of compelled testimony, as well as evidence derived directly and indirectly therefrom, affords this protection. It prohibits the prosecutorial authorities from using the compelled testimony in *any* aspect, and it therefore insures that the testimony cannot lead to the infliction of criminal penalties on the witness." (Italics in original) 406 U.S. at 453.

The Court went on to state:

> "As the Murphy court [*Murphy* v. *Waterfront Commission*, 378 U.S. 52 (1964)] noted, immunity from use and derivative use 'leaves the witness and the Federal Government in substantially the same position as if the witness had claimed his privilege' in the absence of a grant of immunity." 406 U.S. at 458-59.

For a similar statement by the *Kastigar* Court, *see* page 462. *And see Lefkowitz* v. *Turley*, 414 U.S. 70, 77-78 (1973).

"As if the witness had claimed his privilege," *supra*, can only mean that the sole weapon left in the prosecutorial armory is the silence of the defendant. And the silence of the defendant would not be avialable as a subject for cross-examination.

This seems to us to mean that the prohibition against the use and derivative use of the testimony is constitutionally required if the immunity granted is permitted to *compel* the testimony of the bankrupt. Now there is no longer a bargain but a naked compulsion sufficient in scope to preserve the privilege against misuse.

Since it is a constitutionally required *quid pro quo* to justify the compulsory process against the bankrupt, the prohibition rises to the dignity of a constitutional right rather than a mere bargain as it was under the 1898 Bankruptcy Act. Accordingly, *Burrell*, *supra*, is not dispositive on the issue of waiver.

We think that a waiver in these circumstances requires an intentional relinquishment of a known right by the client rather than by the lawyer. *Johnson* v. *Zerbst*, 304

U.S. 458, 464 (1938); *Fay* v. *Noia*, 372 U.S. 391, 439 (1963). *See Schneckcloth* v. *Bustamonte*, 412 U.S. 218, 242 (1973). This is not a case where an affirmative timely motion on a "particular kind of constitutional claim" is required by rule or statute. *Davis* v. *United States*, 411 U.S. 233, 239-40 (1973). *Cf. Estelle* v. *Williams*, — U.S. —, 96 S. Ct. 1691 (1976); *Francis* v. *Henderson*, — U.S. —, 96 S. Ct. 1708 (1976). It is a case where the prosecution is required to respect the immunity granted. The constitutional validity of use immunity as distinguished from transactional immunity depends upon a fair adherence to the integrity of the process. Here the Government should at least give notice of its intention to use the bankrupt's testimony and afford a reasonable opportunity to the defendant to consider whether he wishes to waive the constitutional protection he has been granted under compulsion. We are constrained by our reading of *Kastigar* to reject the Government's claim of waiver based upon ignorance of counsel.[3]

Though we cannot agree with the District Court that appellant waived his right by his counsel's failure to object, we think the result reached in refusing a mistrial was correct on other grounds, and we affirm the conviction, except for Count Three which the government concedes should be reversed for insufficiency.

B.

The prosecution urges that the immunized testimony could properly be used for impeachment on cross-examination, in any event, even though it could not have been used as direct evidence. For this anomaly it relies upon

[3] In fairness, we note that the able appellate counsel did not try the case below.

Harris v. *New York*, 401 U.S. 222 (1971) and *Walder* v. *United States*, 347 U.S. 62 (1954). Those cases hold that evidence rendered incompetent for affirmative use by the prosecution through failure of the police to adhere to procedural constitutional standards under the Fourth and Fifth Amendments may, in some circumstances, nevertheless, be used for impeachment when the defendant chooses to take the stand. The rationale of *Harris* is that there is effective enough pressure on the police to conform to constitutional standards by excluding evidence illegally obtained during the case in chief, or as independent evidence in rebuttal, but that no additional sanctions are required when the defendant is impeached on his credibility when he commits perjury on the direct examination.

Implicit as well is the consideration that "there is hardly justification for letting the defendant affirmatively resort to perjured testimony in reliance on the Government's disability to challenge his credibility." *Walder*, *supra*, 347 U.S. at 65.

This emphasis on perjury is much like the exception for perjured testimony in the general immunity statute, 18 U.S.C. § 6002, and the implied exception in the Bankruptcy Act. *Glickstein* v. *United States*, 222 U.S. 139 (1911); *Bryson* v. *United States*, 396 U.S. 64 (1964). The immunity grant does not protect perjury committed before trial under "immunity" any more than exclusionary rules protect perjury committed at trial.

The *Harris-Walder* line does not, however, sanction a general use of immunized testimony for purposes of impeachment, as the able counsel for the Government suggests. Only where perjury is committed does the exception prevail. Thus, the argument of the Government that even truthful statements made in the bankruptcy proceed-

ing may be used for impeachment is unpersuasive. *Cameron* v. *United States*, 231 U.S. 710 (1914); *United States* v. *Hockenberry*, 474 F.2d 247 (3d Cir. 1973); *and see United States* v. *Housand*, 550 F.2d 818 (2d Cir. 1977). Even in a trial for having made false declarations before a Grand Jury, the use of such truthful statements on cross-examination is not sanctioned by *Harris, supra. United States* v. *Hockenberry, supra.*

In this case, the issue may be further refined, however. Significant parts of his prior testimony were conceded to have been perjurious by the appellant himself. The use immunity had been dissipated so far as the testimony was wilfully false. And the acknowledgment by the defendant that it was perjurious rendered it usable. Though the prosecutor proceeded at his peril, in the first instance, *Cameron, supra; Hockenberry, supra*, the subsequent admission of perjury by the witness himself demonstrated beyond cavil that the exception for perjured testimony was inapplicable, somewhat as the subsequent hearing in *United States* v. *Tramunti*, 500 F.2d 1334, 1339 (2d Cir.), *cert. denied*, 419 U.S. 1079 (1974), was held to support the result.

The difficult issue remains that the only authorities applying the perjury exception thus far have involved perjury prosecution or the like. In such prosecutions, as we had occasion to state recently in *United States* v. *Anzalone*, 555 F.2d 317 (1977), the jury gives the answer to whether the "immunized" testimony was perjurious, directly by its verdict. When the prosecution is for a substantive offense, however, the alleged perjury is collateral and is not directly decided by the jury. To find, in such a prosecution, that particular "immunized" testimony was perjurious requires some preliminary finding of fact, or clear documentary evidence as in *United States*

v. *Kahan*, 414 U.S. 239 (1974), or, as here and in *Tramunti*, later objective proof.

We must leave open the question of whether, in the normal case a trial judge can resolve in advance, without conducting a mini-trial, that the "immunized" testimony was wilfully false. Here the appellant gave the answer when he conceded that he had committed perjury on his bankruptcy examination. Though he did not concede perjury on all of his answers, he did concede sufficiently on material matters so that other contradictory testimony which was not expressly conceded to be false involved, at the worst in context, error that was harmless.

We limit our holding to a prosecution under the Bankruptcy Act in which the subjects of the direct testimony on trial are likely to be akin to those testified to in the bankruptcy hearing,—much as in perjury prosecutions. We do not believe that *Kahan, supra*, sanctions a broader impeachment under a general immunity statute where a substantive offense is the subject of prosecution and the resort to prior immunized testimony is solely for impeachment on credibility.[4] Nor would we encourage prosecutors to rely on the hope that admissions of perjury will always be forthcoming to save the day.

---

[4] *Kahan, supra*, did not involve an immunity grant. It held that a perjurious statement by a defendant upon arraignment to show indigency and obtain the appointment of counsel could be introduced at trial to show an intent to conceal assets linked to the bribery charged. The claim that such use of the statement "chilled" the defendant's right to appointed counsel or his right to take the stand was rejected. The claim in *Kahan* was more subtle and remote than a claim based upon immunity conferred by statute.

Appendix A—Opinion of the United States Court of Appeals

IV

The only claim made on behalf of defendant American Identification Products is that the alleged errors as to Moss had a prejudicial "spill-over" effect. We find this claim to be without merit.

The judgment of conviction on Count Three is reversed; the other judgments of conviction are affirmed, since there was no duplication of sentencing on counts which were merged, except for fines.

With respect to the fines imposed which aggregated $12,000, we remand for resentence. The District Court fined appellant Moss $1,000 on each twelve counts with no provision that they should run concurrently. As we have seen, Count One merged into Count Three which failed for insufficiency, and Count Two merged into Count Four. In Counts Eleven and Twelve, since Moss was convicted of fraudulently withholding documents relating to property which was already the subject of Counts One to Four, the fines should not be repetitive. There remain therefore only seven counts on which a fine could properly be imposed: namely, Counts Four, Six, Seven, Eight, Nine, Ten and Fourteen. Hence, if the Judge intended to impose a $1,000 fine on each count to which appellant could properly be sentenced, that could be done only as indicated.

Affirmed in part, reversed in part, and remanded.

APPENDIX B

Order Denying Government's Petition for Rehearing

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

SECOND CIRCUIT

At a Stated Term of the United States Court of Appeals, in and for the Second Circuit, held at the United States Court House, in the City of New York, on the thirteenth day of October, one thousand nine hundred and seventy-seven.

Present: HON. WILLIAM H. MULLIGAN
HON. MURRAY I. GURFEIN
HON. ELLSWORTH A. VAN GRAAFEILAND
Circuit Judges.

77-1134

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Plaintiff-Appellee,

—v.—

GEORGE MOSS, and AMERICAN INDENTIFICATION PRODUCTS, INC.,
Defendants-Appellants,

ARNOLD RUBIN,
Defendant.

A petition for a rehearing having been filed herein by counsel for the plaintiff-appellee, United States of America,

Upon consideration thereof, it is

Ordered that said petition be and hereby is denied.

A. DANIEL FUSARO
Clerk

No. 77-661

In the Supreme Court of the United States

OCTOBER TERM, 1977

GEORGE MOSS, PETITIONER

v.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ON PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT

BRIEF FOR THE UNITED STATES IN OPPOSITION

WADE H. McCREE, Jr.,
Solicitor General,
BENJAMIN R. CIVILETTI,
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INDEX

CITATIONS

233-475

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OPINION BELOW

The opinion of the court of appeals (Pet. App. A) is reported at 562 F. 2d 155.

JURISDICTION

The judgment of the court of appeals (Pet. App. A) was entered on September 6, 1977. The government's petition for rehearing was denied on October 13, 1977 (Pet. App. B). The petition for a writ of certiorari was filed on November 8, 1977. The jurisdiction of this Court is invoked under 28 U.S.C. 1254(1).

QUESTION PRESENTED

At his trial for bankruptcy fraud, petitioner testified in his own defense and on cross-examination admitted without objection that he had given perjurious immunized testimony at the earlier bankruptcy proceeding from which the criminal charges stemmed.

The question presented is whether in these circumstances admission of the concededly perjurious statements to impeach petitioner's credibility at trial constituted reversible error.

STATUTE INVOLVED

11 U.S.C. 25(a)(10) provides in pertinent part:

> The bankrupt shall * * * submit to an examination concerning the conducting of his business, the cause of his bankruptcy, his dealings with his creditors and other persons, the amount, kind and whereabouts of his property, and, in addition, all matters which may affect the administration and settlement of his estate or the granting of his discharge; but no testimony, or any evidence which is directly or indirectly derived from such testimony, given by him shall be offered in evidence against him in any criminal proceeding, except such testimony as may be given by him in the hearing upon objections to his discharge * * *.

STATEMENT

Following a jury trial in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York, petitioner was convicted of eleven counts of bankruptcy fraud, in violation of 18 U.S.C. 152, and one count

of conspiracy to commit that crime, in violation of 18 U.S.C. 371.[1] He was sentenced to concurrent terms of two years' imprisonment and fined $1,000 on each count. Eighteen months of the prison sentence were suspended. The court of appeals affirmed in part and reversed in part.[2]

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[1] Counts I and III charged petitioner with concealing a G.M.C. truck and a 1969 Chevelle station wagon in contemplation of the bankruptcy proceeding, while Counts II and IV charged him with concealment of the truck and station wagon from the trustee and creditors of the bankrupt. Counts XI and XII charged petitioner with fraudulently withholding from the trustee registration papers showing the bankrupt's ownership of these vehicles. Counts VI and VII respectively charged petitioner with concealing from the trustee a Clark fork-lift and three Bench-Master presses. Counts VIII, IX, and X charged petitioner with cashing and concealing from the trustee checks for $1,000, $1,122.43, and $1,500, payable to the bankrupt. Count XIV charged petitioner with conspiring with co-defendant Arnold Rubin and others to commit offenses in violation of 18 U.S.C. 152.

[2] The government conceded and the court of appeals agreed (Pet. App. 4a) that Counts I and XI merged with Count II, and that Counts III and XII merged with Count IV. The government also conceded that, completely apart from its merger into Count IV, Count III failed for insufficiency of evidence. Accordingly, the court reversed the conviction on Count III; the court affirmed the convictions on all other counts, because the identical concurrent terms of imprisonment imposed involved no duplication of sentencing. With respect to the fines that petitioner was sentenced to pay, the court held that the fines on the merged counts should not be cumulative, and so remanded for resentencing. (In announcing its result (Pet. App. 18a), the court of appeals revealed some confusion about which counts had merged into which. In particular, the court declared that "Count One merged into Count Three which failed for insufficiency, and Count Two merged into Count Four." As a consequence of this error, the court incorrectly concluded that no fine could properly be imposed on the basis of Count II.)

The sufficiency of the evidence adduced at trial is not now challenged. That evidence showed that petitioner had engaged in a carefully planned bankruptcy fraud involving Stafford Manufacturing Co. ("Stafford"), a bankrupt corporation of which petitioner was the president. After Stafford was adjudicated bankrupt and a trustee was appointed to take possession of the corporation's assets and reduce them to cash, petitioner concealed certain assets of the bankrupt from the trustee and transferred some of the bankrupt's property to a successor corporation which he had founded, American Identification Products, Inc. At trial, petitioner admitted that he had testified falsely about these transactions before the bankruptcy court.

ARGUMENT

Petitioner contends that his concededly perjurious testimony in the bankruptcy proceeding was inadmissible to impeach his credibility at his subsequent criminal trial for bankruptcy fraud. This claim fails for both procedural and substantive reasons. Petitioner did not object at trial to the prosecutor's cross-examination concerning his earlier testimony, and he thereby waived any right to raise such a challenge on appeal. Moreover, as the court of appeals correctly held, petitioner's own admission that his earlier testimony was false deprived him of any meritorious claim that his statutory immunity or Fifth Amendment privilege had been violated.

1. At trial petitioner took the stand and stated that he had "appeared" at the bankruptcy proceeding in

August 1972 (Pet. App. 9a). The prosecutor immediately requested a sidebar conference, during which he warned that if defense counsel asked further questions regarding the bankruptcy proceeding, the government would take the position that any Fifth Amendment privilege covering testimony given at that proceeding had been waived. Defense counsel and the court responded that petitioner, by testifying in his own defense, had already waived any privilege he might otherwise have enjoyed under the Fifth Amendment or Title 11 of the United States Code. Thereafter, on cross-examination, defense counsel failed to object when the prosecutor asked petitioner questions about his testimony at the bankruptcy proceeding. Petitioner admitted that some of the answers he had given at that proceeding were false.[3] Several days after the cross-examination had been completed, defense counsel moved for a mistrial on the ground that the government had improperly used petitioner's earlier perjured testimony. The district court held that the failure to object constituted a waiver of any privilege or immunity.

The district court's ruling was correct. Inasmuch as the defense failed to raise a timely objection at the time the evidence was admitted, the court of appeals should not have reached the immunity issues raised by petitioner. See, *e.g.*, *On Lee* v. *United States*, 343 U.S. 747, 749 n. 3.

[3] The cross-examination was directed to countering petitioner's testimony at trial that he had never concealed property with the requisite criminal intent.

The court of appeals rejected the waiver theory on the erroneous premise that, because a constitutional right was involved, waiver required "an intentional relinquishment of a known right by the client rather than by the lawyer" (Pet. App. 13a–14a.)[4] There is, however, no requirement that a defendant must personally waive an objection to the admission of evidence at trial. Indeed, only recently this Court rejected the broad language of *Fay* v. *Noia*, 372 U.S. 391, insofar as it might be read to support such an extraordinary approach in the face of a contemporaneous objection rule. *Wainwright* v. *Sykes*, No. 75–1578, decided June 23, 1977, slip op. 12, 14–18.

Moreover, contrary to the opinion of the court of appeals (Pet. App. 14a), the contemporaneous objection rule *is* mandated "by rule or statute." See Rule 103(a)(1), Fed. R. Evid. Similarly, Rule 51, Fed. R. Crim. P., contains a provision which has been construed to require a contemporaneous objection in order to preserve an issue for appeal.[5] Wright, *Federal Practice and Procedure, Criminal*, § 842 (1969). And finally, even in the absence of a "rule or statute" requiring a contemporaneous objection, there would be

[4] Even if the court of appeals' concept of "waiver" were applied, it could be argued that petitioner himself, by taking the stand, did "intentionally relinquish" whatever preexisting right he may have had to bar admission of the perjurious statement. See *Raffel* v. *United States*, 271 U.S. 494.

[5] These provisions, of course, have the same force and effect as Rule 12, Fed. R. Crim. P., which this Court held, in *Davis* v. *United States*, 411 U.S. 233, takes precedence over a knowing and deliberate waiver standard, such as the one applied by the court of appeals in this case.

little basis for the approach adopted by the panel. As Judge Friendly has argued,

> the defendant's constitutional right is to have a full and fair opportunity to raise his claims on trial and appeal and the assistance of counsel in doing so. There is no need to find a 'waiver' when the defendant or his counsel has simply failed to raise a point in court, since the state has not deprived him of anything to which he is constitutionally entitled.

Friendly, *Is Innocence Irrelevant? Collateral Attack on Criminal Judgments*, 38 U. Chi. L. Rev. 142, 159 (1970).

2. Assuming *arguendo* that petitioner's claim had been properly preserved, the court of appeals correctly decided that the prosecutor's use of petitioner's previous perjurious statements violated neither the immunity provisions of the Bankruptcy Act, 30 Stat. 548, as amended, 11 U.S.C. 25(a)(10), nor the self-incrimination clause of the Fifth Amendment.

a. Petitioner concedes (Pet. 6), as he must, that the Bankruptcy Act permits prosecution for perjury committed under a grant of immunity. *Glickstein* v. *United States*, 222 U.S. 139 (construing an earlier version of Section 25(a)(10)). Thus, although the Bankruptcy Act contains no specific provision for perjury prosecutions,[6] this Court stated in *Glickstein* (*id.* at 143) that perjury is entitled to no protection

[6] The general immunity statute, 18 U.S.C. 6002, makes the perjury exception explicit. See *Kastigar* v. *United States*, 406 U.S. 441. Petitioner can derive no comfort from this Court's statement in *Kastigar*, *supra*, 406 U.S. at 453, that Section 6002 prohibits use of compelled testimony "in *any* respect," since this remark was directed only to the use of incriminatory *truthful* testimony.

> since the statute expressly commands the giving of testimony, and its manifest purpose is to secure truthful testimony, while the limited and exclusive meaning * * * attribute[d by the bankrupt] to the immunity clause would cause the section to be a mere license to commit perjury, and hence not to command the giving of testimony in the true sense of the word.

See also *United States* v. *Dornau,* 491 F. 2d 473, 480 (C.A. 2).

Petitioner seeks to escape application of this principle by arguing that it applies only where perjury itself is the subject of prosecution (Pet. 6–7).[7] But, as the court of appeals aptly observed, this case was "a prosecution under the Bankruptcy Act in which the subjects of the direct testimony on trial are likely to be akin to those testified to in the bankruptcy hearing, much as in perjury prosecutions" (Pet. App. 17a). Noting that petitioner had conceded his statements were perjurious, the court concluded (Pet. App. 16a):

> The use immunity had been dissipated so far as the testimony was wilfully false. And the acknowledgement by the defendant that it was perjurious rendered it usable.

[7] Petitioner argues (Pet. 7) that he is entitled to a new trial because the government committed "a threshold impropriety" when it proceeded to cross-examine him on the basis of his bankruptcy testimony without his having admitted or the court having determined that that testimony was false. Since petitioner eventually admitted that his testimony was false, he suffered no prejudice. Moreover, petitioner can hardly complain that there was no threshold determination of falsity when he failed to interpose an objection that would have raised the issue.

At least to the extent that petitioner testified falsely and thereby failed to honor his part of the immunity bargain, the government was not precluded from using his testimony at the later criminal trial. See also *United States* v. *Bryan,* 339 U.S. 323, 338–341; *United States* v. *Tramunti,* 500 F. 2d 1334, 1342–1344 (C.A. 2), certiorari denied, 419 U.S. 1079. Indeed, it was *only* to the extent that petitioner had testified *falsely* in the bankruptcy court that his testimony there was useful to the government at the criminal trial. The fact that petitioner had lied in the bankruptcy court about the disposition of Stafford's property tended to show that his concealment of that property from the trustee was knowing and fraudulent and therefore violative of 18 U.S.C. 152. Thus, this case does not involve the situation in which truthful immunized testimony may have been used to incriminate the declarant.

b. This reading of the immunity provision of the Bankruptcy Act creates no conflict with the self-incrimination clause of the Fifth Amendment. In *United States* v. *Kahan,* 415 U.S. 239, the accused, in order to obtain appointed counsel, gave false statements at arraignment. The statements were later admitted at trial during the government's case in chief. This Court rejected the claim that the Fifth Amendment barred introduction of the false pretrial statements. Unlike *Simmons* v. *United States,* 390 U.S. 377, *Kahan* did not involve "the use of pretrial testimony at trial to prove its incriminating content." 415 U.S. at 243. Rather, in *Kahan,* "the incriminating component of

respondent's pretrial statements derive[d] not from their content, but from [their falsity and] respondent's knowledge of their falsity" (*ibid.*).[8] This rule is equally applicable here, where petitioner acknowledged the falsity of his pretrial testimony and the fact of that earlier perjury, not its content, was used to impeach petitioner's testimony at trial.[9]

[8] See also *United States* v. *Kahan*, *supra*, 415 U.S. at 248 (Marshall, J., dissenting): "If the defendant's willfully false statement can be used against him at a subsequent perjury trial, I see no reason why it cannot be used against him at his pending criminal trial. * * *"

Mr. Justice Marshall dissented only because the district court admitted respondent's arraignment statements without first finding formally that those statements had been willfully false (*id.* at 249).

[9] Petitioner's citation (Pet. 8–9) of dictum in *Shotwell Mfg. Co.* v. *United States*, 371 U.S. 341, 350 n. 10, does not dictate a contrary result. In *Shotwell*, the Court sought to distinguish between petitioners' voluntary incriminating disclosures and similar disclosures made after a grant of immunity. In the latter case, the Court said, "the truth or falsity of * * * a disclosure would * * * be irrelevant to the question of its admissibility." Read in context, the Court's remark plainly referred to incriminating disclosures, such as confessions, and to the attempted use of such disclosures as direct evidence of guilt in a subsequent criminal trial. Here, by contrast, petitioner's testimony at the bankruptcy proceeding was not itself incriminating and was used only for impeachment purposes at the later criminal trial. Under these circumstances, the conceded falsity of the earlier testimony was hardly irrelevant.

Likewise, *United States* v. *Frumento* 552 F. 2d 534, 543 (C.A. 3), upon which petitioner relies, does not support reversal of the court of appeals in this case. In *Frumento*, the Third Circuit reiterated its previous holding that truthful immunized testimony may not subsequently be used for impeachment. See *United States* v. *Hockenberry*, 474 F. 2d 247, 249–250 (C.A. 3). The court expressly endorsed, however, the principle enunciated by the Second Circuit in *United States* v. *Tramunti*, *supra*, namely that "*untruthful* testimony is unprotected," even if given under a grant of immunity. See 552 F. 2d at 543 n. 16. The use of such admittedly untruthful testimony to impeach an immunized witness is precisely the situation presented here.

CONCLUSION

The petition for a writ of certiorari should be denied.

Respectfully submitted.

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